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TO: Secretary of State

NO: 185, August 3, 6 p.m.

Bill for transmission Leopold's powers to Baudouin being submitted to appropriate committees of Chamber this afternoon. Expected bill may well pass both Houses and become law early next week. Debate will probably not be long in view King's letter of today (EMBTEL 182 August 3) and editorial in ultra-conservative LIBRE BELGIQUE urging PSC to rally around Baudouin.

When law passed Baudouin expected go to Parliament to take oath and may be presented to Parliament by Leopold with renewed plea for unity around his son.

Leopold, I am told has taken no firm decision regarding his future place of residence.

MURPHY

JP:RFB

755.00/8-350

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY J.L. Smith DATE NOV 1 7 1982

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